

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as currently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-26 are currently pending. The present Amendment amends Claims 1-18 and adds Claims 19-26. The changes and additions to the claims are supported by the originally filed application. No new matter has been added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite; Claims 1-3, 7-12, and 16-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Vandevoorde et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,246,342, herein "Vandevoorde"); and Claims 4-6 and 13-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vandevoorde in view of Takishita (U.S. Patent No. 6,121,900).

In response to the rejection of Claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, independent Claims 1 and 10 are amended to correct the noted informalities. Specifically, the the actual airport and the one being displayed are further distinguished in the claims by using the expressions "airport" and "airport image." In view of amended independent Claims 1 and 10, it is believed that all pending claims are definite and no further rejection on that basis is anticipated. If, however, the Examiner disagrees, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned who will be happy to work with the Examiner in a joint effort to derive mutually acceptable language.

In response to the rejection of Claims 1-3, 7-12, and 16-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection for the reasons set forth below.

Briefly recapitulating, Applicant's invention, as recited in Claim 1, is directed to an airport display device, including: a display including at least one window; a database including data related to an airport; a selector configured to select from a plurality of different

degrees of zoom a degree of zoom for an airport image to be displayed, the airport image corresponding to the airport, the selector comprising a plurality of zoom buttons configured to display the airport image in the window according to a plurality of predefined zoom degrees; a control unit connected to the display, the database, and the selector, the control unit being configured to control the display to display in the at least one window the airport image according to a scale value representative of the degree of zoom selected by the selector; and a changing unit configured to change the scale value representative of the degree of zoom. Claim 1 has been amended to recite that "the selector comprising a plurality of zoom buttons configured to display the airport image in the window according to a plurality of predefined zoom degrees" and Claim 10 has been amended similarly.

The Office Action asserts at page 4 that the Vandevoorde patent teaches the features of Claim 3. Specifically, the Office Action asserts that Vandevoorde teaches "a first button configured to display the airport in the window according to a first predefined zoom degree corresponding to general navigation including a full display of the airport" and support this assertion with "plus and size GUI of figure 7" and figures 1, 7, 9, and 10 of Vandevoorde. Applicant respectfully disagrees because the "plus and size GUI of figure 7" do not teach or suggest "a predefined zoom degree" or any button related to this. The cited figures may display the entire airport, but nothing in Vandevoorde suggests that this is achieved in any other manner than by zooming out several times until the entire airport is seen. Moreover, the cited buttons, "plus and size GUI of figure 7," were used in the Office Action, regarding Claims 2 and 11, to designate the completely different zooming process of zooming in or out between the minimum and maximum zoom values. Therefore, these buttons cannot be used again to represent a completely different function such as the preset zoom settings now recited in amended Claims 1 and 10.

The Office Action further asserts at page 4 that Vandevoorde teaches “a second button configured to display the airport in the window according to a second predefined zoom degree corresponding to proximity navigation including a plurality of details of the airport” and “a third button configured to display the airport in the window according to a third predefined zoom degree corresponding to airport details required for precision taxiing” and support these assertions with column 7, lines 38-49, and column 8, lines 24-30, of Vandevoorde. Applicant respectfully disagrees and submits that the cited passages may show that several levels of zooming are possible, but these passages, along with the remaining teachings of Vandevoorde, fail to teach or suggest any manner of achieving these levels of zooming other than zooming in or out until a desired level has been achieved. The Vandevoorde teachings do not meet a button triggering a predefined zooming level, much less a plurality of such buttons. Accordingly, based on the above discussion, independent Claims 1 and 10 were amended to distinguish even further over Vandevoorde.

Therefore, the prior art fails to teach or suggest every feature recited in Applicant's amended independent Claims 1 and 10, so that Claims 1-3, 7-12, and 16-18 are patentably distinct over the prior art. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection based on the Vandevoorde patent.¹

Further, the Office Action asserts at page 5 regarding the rejection of Claims 8 and 17 that Vandevoorde teaches “the selector includes a displacement button configured to displace a view of the airport being displayed on the window in horizontal and vertical directions so as to display other portions of the airport” and supports this assertion with column 4, lines 60-67, of Vandevoord. Applicant respectfully disagrees because column 4, lines 60-67 only pertains to particular arrangements of the screen with respect to the user. Vandevoord states

¹ See M.P.E.P. 2131: “A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference,” (Citations omitted) (emphasis added). See also M.P.E.P. 2143.03: “All words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art.”

that “any adverse effect on the controller’s field of view is acceptable. The oblique arrangement is assisted by the flat screen configuration, advantageously with the angle at which it is positioned depending on the time of day.”² Applicant respectfully submits that this does not pertain to the claimed subject matter in any way. It is therefore respectfully requested, for this additional reason, that the rejection be withdrawn.

Furthermore, the Office Action asserts at page 5 regarding the rejection of Claims 9 and 18 that Vandevoorde teaches “the control unit is configured to display two different degrees of zoom in a continuous manner such that a change from the first degree of zoom to the second degree of zoom appears continuous to an operator viewing the display” and supports this assertion with figures 7 and 12-14 of Vandevoord. Applicant respectfully disagrees because the cited figures do not teach or suggest anything regarding the *change between* two levels, much less anything regarding a “continuous” change. In fact, applicant respectfully submits that a static two-dimensional figure cannot describe a change. It is therefore respectfully requested, for this additional reason, that the rejection be withdrawn since the Office Action did not provide a passage of Vandevoord teaching “two different degrees of zoom in a continuous manner such that a change from the first degree of zoom to the second degree of zoom appears continuous to an operator viewing the display.”

In response to the rejection of Claims 4-6 and 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection for the reasons set forth below.

The Office Action does not assert that Takishita teaches the aforementioned features of amended independent Claims 1 and 10. Therefore, even if the combination of the Vandevoorde and Takishita patents is assumed to be proper, the combination fails to teach every element of the claimed invention. Specifically, the combination fails to teach the

² Vandevoorde, column 4, lines 63-67.

claimed "selector comprising a plurality of zoom buttons configured to display the airport image in the window according to a plurality of predefined zoom degrees." Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection based on these patents.³

In order to vary the scope of protection recited in the claims, new Claims 19-26 are added. New Claims 19-26 find non-limiting support in the disclosure as originally filed, for example at pages 13 and 14 of Applicant's specification. Therefore, the changes to the claims are not believed to raise a question of new matter.⁴

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-26 is earnestly solicited.

³ See MPEP 2142 stating, as one of the three "basic criteria [that] must be met" in order to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, that "the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations," (emphasis added). See also MPEP 2143.03: "All words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art."

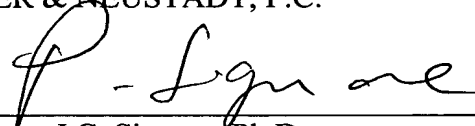
⁴ See M.P.E.P. 2163.06 stating that "information contained in any one of the specification, claims or drawings of the application as filed may be added to any other part of the application without introducing new matter."

Application No. 10/717,664
Reply to Office Action of February 7, 2005

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "P. Signore", is written over a horizontal line.

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